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SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 15, 1953

We motored out early to Royaumont to breakfast with the Elie de Rothschilds. Elie had been due from Casablanca the night before but had not arrived since the Paris airports were fogbound. He is to come today in a Comet. Actually he did not get in until our shooting was over this evening. They made a hazardous landing at Le Bourget in deep fog, which is dangerous because of the great speed of the Comets. Liliane was, as always, delightful and we had a gay breakfast with the young André de Ganays and the de Moustiers. De Moustier and his wife live at the Chateau de Caulincourt which she inherited from her ancestor, the famous envoy of Napoleon who wrote such excellent memoirs of his stay in Russia. One of de Moustier's own direct ancestors had been the first French Minister to the United States and had crossed on the ship with Dupont de Nemours when the latter went to our country. The Chateau at Caulincourt, which is not far from Belgium, has been destroyed four times - once by the Spaniards and thrice by the Germans. After the last war they have not restored it with any degree of completeness. There is said to be a fine duck-shoot there to which they have asked me next summer. They raise Chesapeake Bay dogs, the first I have ever seen in Europe.

We went over about noon to join Alain and beautiful Marie de Rothschild and their other guests at Labersine, not far from Chantilly. This was the property of their father Robert but was so hacked up during the German occupation that the chateau has been abandoned.

We had a delightful day with the pheasants. The fog, which had been very heavy when we left Paris, lifted and, though the sky remained overcast, the weather was excellent for shooting. There was not a great show of birds but most of them presented themselves sportingly and we ~~killed 150 pheasants.~~

We went for what I had erroneously thought would be tea at the Alain de Rothschilds' enchanting small house beyond Senlis. A variety of pâtes, shell fish, meats, game, eggs, and wonderful Ch. Lafitte was followed by the finest chocolate

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cake I [redacted]-ever [redacted] tasted.

We got back to Paris about eight o'clock tonight and found Virginia Clarke had just arrived.

Later in the evening I talked to Jim Conant on the telephone and arranged to shift my plans for tomorrow and go to Bonn instead of Frankfurt.

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